



Senior Wisdom at Friendship Village 2645 E. Southern Avenue
Tuesday, 28 July 2015 1–3 PM
 Character Area 5 Meetup

Aging in Place is defined as "the ability to live in one's own home and community safely, independently, and comfortably, regardless of age, income, or ability level." On Tuesday, 28 July, 2015, seventeen Tempe residents participated in a Meetup at Friendship Village to discuss aging in place, and what matters most to them. Many of the participants have worked, schooled, and/or raised a family here in Tempe, having lived here for decades. Here's what they had to say.

Friendship Village Meeting Summary

- Five main aspects of Aging in Place
 - Communication and Engagement – caregiving technologies,
 - Health and Wellness – access to healthcare, service providers, wellness amenities (active/passive)
 - Learning and Contribution – activities to keep our minds learning; feel a part of community
 - Mobility – transportation / multi-modal options, bus/Orbit/Streetcar/LRT Stations, shade, comfort, etc.
 - Safety and Security – lighting, universal / barrier-free design, ramps, elevators / lifts, etc.
- *Dial-A-Ride* ends abruptly at city boundary – requires a transfer to Banner Hospital, other medical facilities
- Communications / Internet access / public Wi-Fi essential as healthcare and technology merges
- Non-profit / community event signage regulations need to be inclusive
- Shared / increased use of canals (walking paths, shade respites / meeting spots, benches, bridges, etc.)
 - Partner with SRP to improve quality / access / paths / connectivity / lighting / shade

- Focus on accessibility (hearing, vision, parking, etc.)
- Design Guidelines should focus on walkability (Tempe Marketplace called out as a non-walkable example)
 - Request shuttle or golf cart transport / taxi for access onsite at Tempe Marketplace
- Orbit – any direct routes to a Light Rail Station Area? (25 minute max. desirable time for trips)
- Neighborhood character of adjacent areas affects population / desirability / livability of Friendship Village
- Foster new Neighborhood Associations where they are non-existent (adjacent / neighboring areas)
- Mind transitions
- Need to balance street narrowing / shade / pedestrian amenities / traffic congestion
- Dorsey *Park-N-Ride* capacity adequate?
- Pedestrian crossing @ Friendship Village north across Southern Avenue needed (signalized crossing)
- New signage for the Village desired; what are the sign regulations?
- Adjacent Ehrhardt Park (City of Tempe) needs benches – there is no place to sit
- Need for public restrooms in parks (Ehrhardt Park)
- Need for public restrooms at *Park-N-Ride* facilities
- Community Garden at Friendship Village adjacent to Ehrhardt Park / Tempe Canal
- More block parties / events to promote area / engage neighbors / foster relationships
- Covered transit shelters needed for protection from sun and rain

Special thanks to Connie Shryrock of Friendship Village for her help coordinating the event, enlisting volunteers, and for providing snacks and refreshments.